

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-35 (cancelled)

36. (Original) A manufacturing method of minute metallic spheres having a measurement unit in an upper portion of an oil vessel disposed vertically, for forming a minute metallic sphere by solidifying a molten metal discharged from this measurement unit, in an oil, wherein

one or a plurality of regions in the lower part of said oil vessel is cooled, and the oil in each region is set and kept at a predetermined temperature.

37. (Original) A manufacturing method of minute metallic spheres described in claim 36, wherein

the oil in said oil vessel is cooled by a cooling tube or a cooling jacket wound around said oil vessel in the lower part of said measurement unit.

38. Cancelled

39. (Original) A manufacturing method of minute metallic spheres described in claim 36, wherein

said moving-flow regulation means is a projecting piece projecting from an inner wall of said oil vessel.

40. (Original) A manufacturing method of minute metallic spheres having a measurement unit in an upper portion of an oil vessel disposed vertically, for forming a minute metallic sphere by solidifying a molten metal discharged from this measurement unit, in an oil, wherein

a convection of the oil in the oil vessel is physically regulated in one or a plurality of portions in the lower part of said measurement unit, and the oil in each region regulated is set and kept at a predetermined temperature.

Claims 41-63 (cancelled)